

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

THE STATUS OF THE SEMINOLE BAT, *LASIURUS*
SEMINOLUS (RHOADS)

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The status of the Seminole bat, *Lasiurus seminolus* (Rhoads) has been thoroughly treated, and ordinarily no further discussion of the subject should be necessary. However, Miller and Kellogg (U. S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 205, p. 105, 1955), and a subsequent worker (Sealander, Amer. Midl. Nat., 56:264, 1956) who apparently follows their treatment, have given the erroneous impression that the animal in question is a subspecies of *Lasiurus borealis* (Müller). Kellogg has since indicated (personal correspondence) that this listing was due to an unfortunate oversight.

Both Barkalow (Jour. Mamm., 29:415, 1948) and Coleman (Jour. Mamm., 31:190, 1950) have presented evidence to show that the Seminole bat is not a geographical race of *L. borealis*. Each of the two species has a definite range, and these ranges overlap broadly. The two species often utilize the same feeding territory, and in some places have been found together throughout the year. No specimen intermediate between the two forms has ever been taken. In view of such evidence, to consider the Seminole bat a race of *L. borealis* would indicate a misunderstanding of the fundamental concepts of species and subspecies.

Since a work as important as Miller and Kellogg has re-introduced an improper nomenclature for this bat, it is essential that the situation once again be brought to the attention of mammalogists.

